

REMARKS

Claims 4-29 and 37-40 remain pending in the application with claims 4, 18, 19, 20, and 37 being in independent form. None of the claims are being changed in the subject Response. The subject Response merely recites the claims as Amended/Cancelled/Added in previous Amendments. In particular, claims 1-3 were cancelled and claim 4 was amended in an Amendment filed on November 16, 1999. Claims 5-16 are original to the patent being reissued. Claims 17-19 were added to the application in an Amendment filed on June 1, 1999 and claims 20-40 were added to the application in the Amendment filed on November 16, 1999. Claims 30-36 were then cancelled in an Amendment filed on December 20, 2002. The dependency of claim 17 was subsequently amended on April 17, 2002 and claim 37 was subsequently amended on April 11, 2002. Support for each of the claim amendments and additions is as follows.

Previously dependent Claim 4 was amended into independent form and includes each of the limitations from previous independent claim 1 and previous intervening claims 2 and 3. There is also clear support for the subject matter in claim 4 at col. 2, lines 15-37, col. 2, lines 62-67 through col. 3, lines 1-3 and the Figures. Added claim 17 is supported by the Figures and col. 2, lines 62-67 through col. 3, lines 1-3. Added claim 18 is supported by the Figures and col. 2, lines 15-67 through col. 3, lines 1-3. Added claims 19 and 20 are supported by the Figures, col. 2, lines 15-37, and col. 2, lines 62-67 through col. 3, lines 1-17. Added dependent claims 21-27 are supported by the Figures, and col. 2, lines 39-67 through col. 3, lines 1-16. Added dependent claims 28 and 29 are supported by the Figures, col. 2, lines 66-67 through col. 3, lines 1-16, and col. 3, lines 40-50. Added Claim 37 is supported by the Figures, col. 2, lines 15-37, col. 2, lines 62-67 through col. 3, lines 1-17, and col. 3, lines 36-40. Added dependent claims 38-40 are supported by the Figures and col. 3, lines 25-50.

The application is in condition for allowance except for the non-compliance of the November 15, 2004 Amendment. Having now properly conformed this Amendment and satisfied all the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.173, the application is

believed ready for issuance. No fees are believed due for the submission of this Response. However, if any fees are required the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

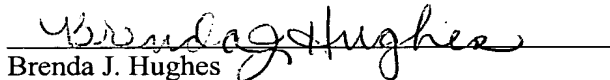


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached **Response** and **return post card** are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the **Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**, on **March 17, 2005**.



Brenda J. Hughes